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Police: Indict Netanyahu

By RAINE MARCUS and MICHAL YUDELMAN

The police team investigating the Bar-On Affair has recommended that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu be indicted...

"I have no doubt whatsoever that the prime minister will have no problem with this affair and that he will emerge spotless," Netanyahu's spokesman Shai Bazak said.

Earlier in the evening Netanyahu visited Shas senior Rabbi Ovadia Yosef for what was described as a "briefing in state affairs." The Bar-On Affair and its

implications did come up briefly at the meeting, during which Yosef presented Netanyahu with a Pessah Hagaddah and expressed the wish that he would overcome all his enemies.



PM Binyamin Netanyahu gestures at a meeting with US special envoy Dennis Ross yesterday before he learned that the police had recommended he be indicted for his role in the Bar-On Affair.

Police: Main witness was Avi-Yitzhak

By RAINE MARCUS

The police recommendations to indict Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, MK Aryeh Deri, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and Avigdor Lieberman were based on a central witness's evidence, police revealed yesterday.

credibility and our belief in him is critical in the ultimate conclusions. That is to say, whether the material will be filed away or will be used as a base for presenting indictments.

Earthquake shakes political arena, Page 3

Kahalani said that he wasn't briefed on the recommendations by Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz on Tuesday, but that he learned yesterday that Netanyahu was among those the police recommended be indicted.

Ivry panel slams IAF norms

By ARNHE O'SULLIVAN

The air force general command is to be shaken up, the book on helicopter flight procedures rewritten, two veteran helicopter pilots are to be dismissed and a senior base commander reprimanded...

commission ever ran an experiment to determine if the use of cellular phones would have caused the crash and determined that they had no effect.

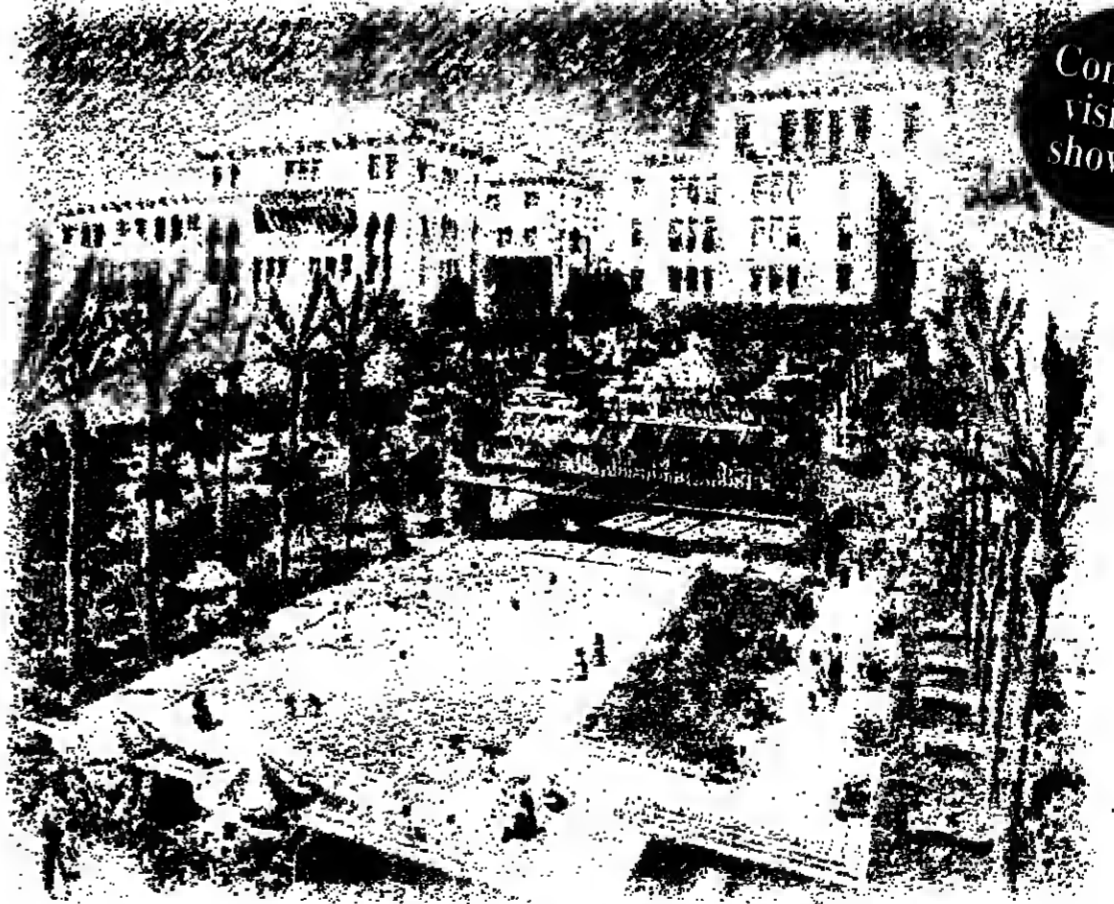
Ivry also said there was no device yet available in the world that would warn helicopters that would warn helicopters

Commission recommendations

- The Officers: Brig.-Gen. Chaim Gofeo, commander of the Tel Nof Air Base where the CH-53 squadrons are based, is to be reprimanded by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak. Lt.-Col. Amiran Lavi, commander of the CH-53 helicopter squadron, is to be dismissed from his squadron and not be given another command.

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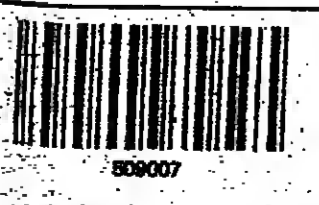


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IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

# Bar-On Affair and the law

Disregard all the hype, hoopla and political drama surrounding the Bar-On Affair, and what is left are two cardinal questions with which Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel will have to grapple: Where does normative political horse trading end and criminal blackmail begin? And is it a crime for a minister to lie to the cabinet?

According to press reports, the police have recommended that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, and Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman be charged for breach of trust for their roles in the Bar-On Affair, and have also recommended that MK Aryeh Deri be indicted for blackmail and threats.

It has become self-evident, over the last three months, that the prestige and future of both Netanyahu and his government, as well as the credibility of the press — especially Israel Television, which broke the story — hang in the balance.

But the manner in which the police have let it be known that they recommended indicting the four central players in the drama has added that institution to the public bodies whose prestige is very much at stake.

According to Hebrew University political scientist Avi Diskin, whose specialty is the Israeli political system, if Attorney-General Rubinstein decides not to press on with an indictment, or if the indictment is thrown out in the courts, the police will risk being seen as



Aryeh Deri (left) and Tzahi Hanegbi (Issac Harari and Flash 90)

overly eager to press charges against politicians, especially if they are on the political Right.

Diskin cited the recent case against Rafael Eitan for using classified military information against a political foe, a case tossed out of court as the most recent example of a string of indictments against politicians that led nowhere.

And the cases in the Bar-On Affair are far from cut-and-dried, said Yoav Dotan, a lecturer on public law at Hebrew University.

"That an action is taken as part of coalition politics does not mean that it may not be a crime," said Dotan, referring to the allegations that Deri hinged his participation in the government, or his support for the Hebron agreement, on the appointment of Bar-On. "Coalition politics does not bring immunity in the eyes of the law. But the broader question is to what extent the criminal law

should become involved in this activity."

If Deri, as alleged, wanted to appoint Roni Bar-On as attorney-general because he thought he was "one of us" and would be receptive to granting a favorable plea bargain, it is fundamentally different than the regular coalition give and take that precedes all senior political appointments.

Diskin said this would be tantamount to "Deri wanting to appoint his own judge."

Yet that Deri actually did this will be difficult to prove, Dotan said, because — barring proof of a straight deal between Bar-On and Deri — it is a question of motivation: Why would Deri want Bar-On? If there were a straight deal between the two men, then Bar-On would also have to be indicted, something that does not appear in the offering.

Netanyahu's lawyer, Ya'acov Weinroth, alluded in an Israel

Radio interview yesterday to other possible reasons that Deri would want a Bar-On appointment, namely that he just wanted to keep his own lawyer, Dan Avitzyhak, out of the attorney-general's job.

"Let's say that Aryeh Deri was very angry that they were taking his lawyer, Avi-Yitzhak, a man who newspaper reports said was being paid millions of dollars, and that he [Deri] was furious, boiling, yelled, and went crazy. Is that extortion and threats?"

While there may not be precedents in Israeli politics of a politician trying to interfere in a legal appointment for his own personal gain, as Deri allegedly did, Diskin said that regarding the allegations against Hanegbi — that he misrepresented the Bar-On appointment to the cabinet — this would not be the first time a cabinet minister did not tell his colleagues everything.

"It is ridiculous to think this was the first time a minister has not told the cabinet the whole truth," he said.

Dotan added: "If a cabinet member lies to the others, is this a matter for criminal law to be involved in? Technically you can say it was breach of trust. But was the criminal law designed to deal with this type of scenario? In politics, there is an alternative mechanism of correction. The first is to expose the lies. Then the public decides whether it wants this type of person in this position. Should the law get involved?"

Exactly the question the country is waiting for Rubinstein and Arbel to answer.

# An earthquake shakes the political arena

By SARAH HONIG

The political arena was shaken yesterday by reports of a police recommendation that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu be indicted in the Bar-On Affair.

The immediate reaction in the coalition was to try to find out if the simultaneous reports by both TV channels on their prime time news programs were accurate. The opposition lost no time in demanding that early elections be called.

"If the reports are accurate, it is a political earthquake," Ilim quoted Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres as saying before the police confirmed them. "The prime minister should suspend himself immediately and new elections must be called."

It was clear that Netanyahu is confident in his innocence and that no one around him expected that he would be considered for an indictment.

Moreover, a source close to Netanyahu said that "the recommendation is incredibly outrageous considering the fact that nothing at all is left of the original Bar-On for Hebron allegation and the charge that Bar-On would allow a plea bargain for [Shas MK Aryeh] Deri. It appears there is an attempt to ascribe felonious intent and character to common political considerations that are only natural and unavoidable in any political setting, and which were so in the past and will continue to be so in the future."

The source categorically denied rumors that Netanyahu is planning to call new elections in the event he is indicted. "No such discussions were held, and nothing like this was even considered," he said. "Netanyahu knows he is totally

clean here."

But around Netanyahu there was a great deal of repressed anger at what were termed "continuing tendentious leaks" from the police. Some went so far as to charge that certain elements in the police are out to get Netanyahu.

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan — who himself had been recently the subject of a police investigation which resulted in an indictment, but which was swiftly dismissed by the court — argued that "the police is tainted with political bias... Anything which comes out of the police must be treated very carefully and with huge grains of salt, and particularly those leaks which are not done innocently."

"In my own case only hours before I was unequivocally cleared by the court, the police continued relentlessly to leak against me. I was told that they were instructed to keep interrogating me even if it were patently obvious that there was nothing of substance there. It is time these things were said. I had kept silent for too long."

The Labor Party charged that "the prime minister is seeking to pressure the police and intimidate the prosecution. This is a brutal attempt to obstruct justice."

In a gathering of his allies at party headquarters in Tel Aviv yesterday, MK Ehud Barak, the leading candidate for the Labor Party leadership, called on Netanyahu to step down immediately. He said "For the first time in the history of Israel, the police have recommended indicting a prime minister for breach of trust. We are again facing a difficult test. I hope we will pass this test while preserving the principles of democracy and the law."

Barak talked of "a corrupt government which must be brought down — the sooner the better — and which definitely should not be joined."

He urged all "ministers with a conscience" to resign immediately from this "tainted government, so that its days would be shortened."

Another leadership candidate, Yossi Beilin, urged Labor to launch "an unequivocal public campaign against the prime minister, with the aim of bringing him down."

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid demanded, even before last night's revelation that Netanyahu was among those the police recommended be indicted, that he resign now and that new elections be called.

Meretz MK Ran Cohen announced he will summon into session the Knesset State Control Committee, which he chairs, in an attempt to get it to demand the establishment of a state inquiry commission. He asked that all the material collected by the investigators be turned over to him, and that the police recommendations be published in full.

Netanyahu, Hanegbi, and Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman must be suspended immediately, Cohen declared.

Lieberman, according to several Likud sources, has been saying that, if indicted, he will step down, though he continues to believe that he is blameless. The police apparently fault Lieberman for having reported Deri's alleged threats to Netanyahu.

Hanegbi, maintain the same Likud sources, will not give in easily, even if indicted. He too believes he committed no crime and will take his case to the High Court if need be, to get a possible indictment repealed.

## ANALYSIS

# Stigma is here to stay

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu tried to behave as if nothing unusual had taken place last night. He extended a long, friendly hand to the director-general, Avigdor Lieberman, and MK Aryeh Deri, with a scheduled pre-Pessah call on Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef.

While it is hard to picture them not discussing the affair which has them both embroiled, the word from the participants was that it never came up.

Nonetheless, Netanyahu was hit hard when both TV stations reported on their evening news shows that the police had recommended that he be indicted.

The fact that it happened when

and where it did proves that it was a deliberate leak, probably by someone to the police.

Netanyahu was reportedly reeling from the blow. A source close to him said that he honestly believes he did nothing wrong and that a recommendation for an indictment was the last thing he thought likely. This, then, could call to question his other suppositions in the case, including that the prosecution will reject the police recommendations.

Why were the recommendations leaked? In both the Likud and Labor it was agreed that this puts a very heavy burden on

State Attorney Edna Arbel. The public furor will not make it easy for her to avoid putting all those mentioned on trial.

Thus the leaks alter the situation and put Netanyahu in far deeper trouble than he has ever been in.

Even if he is not indicted, the impression that he got his hands dirty will have been fixed in the public mind and the opposition can be relied on to make sure that the message will be repeated over and over. From now on, the four recommended for indictment will be haunted by the fact that the police judged them guilty.

## The process of impeaching a prime minister

By BAT SHEVA TSUR

According to the Basic Law: Government, an indictment cannot be brought against the prime minister without the consent of the attorney-general. Paragraph 25 (a) reads: A criminal investigation will not be opened against the prime minister, without the consent of the attorney-general and an indictment will not be brought against the prime minister except by the attorney general.

Clause (b) of the same paragraph states that such an indictment has to be heard by the Jerusalem District Court — with a panel of three judges. They are empowered to rule whether there has been a felony involving dishonor.

Clause (c) reads: Should the court convict the prime minister of a felony, it will decide in its verdict whether the felony involves dishonor.

According to paragraph 26 (a), the Knesset may, by a decision of a majority of its members, remove the prime minister from office if he has been convicted of a felony involving dishonor.

The decision on impeaching the prime minister is taken in two stages — first, by a majority of members of the Knesset House Committee, which must convene within 30 days of the court's verdict.

If it decides to remove the prime minister from office, its recommendation has to be brought before the Knesset plenum, which also has to decide by a majority vote.

The law stipulates that the prime minister must be given a chance to bring his case before both the committee and the plenum.

In the event of a decision to remove the prime minister from office, the law says, special elections will be held.

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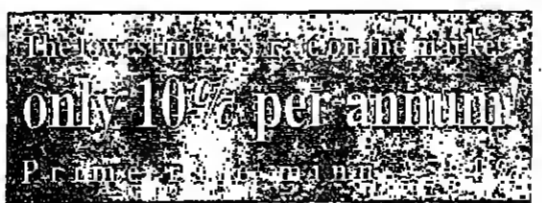
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**NOTICE**  
Offices of the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization will be closed during **Hol Hamo'ed Pesach**, from **Wednesday, April 23, 1997** until **Sunday, April 27, 1997**.  
Information centers for new immigrants will be open during **Hol Hamo'ed**, except on Friday and the Holiday Eve, as follows:

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Batfa - 191 Rehov Hamoginim	Tel. 04-851-0401 Tel. 04-851-0351	8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Be'er Sheva - 3 Rehov Weizmann	Tel. 04-981-2483 Tel. 07-629-5891 Tel. 07-629-5887	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Jerusalem - 3 Rehov Ben Shetah	Tel. 02-4846522 Tel. 02-623-1823	8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Upper Nazareth - 25 Rehov Hacarmel	Tel. 06-657-1517 Tel. 06-655-6184	8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The 177-022-1314 telephone hotline will be closed during **Hol Hamo'ed**.  
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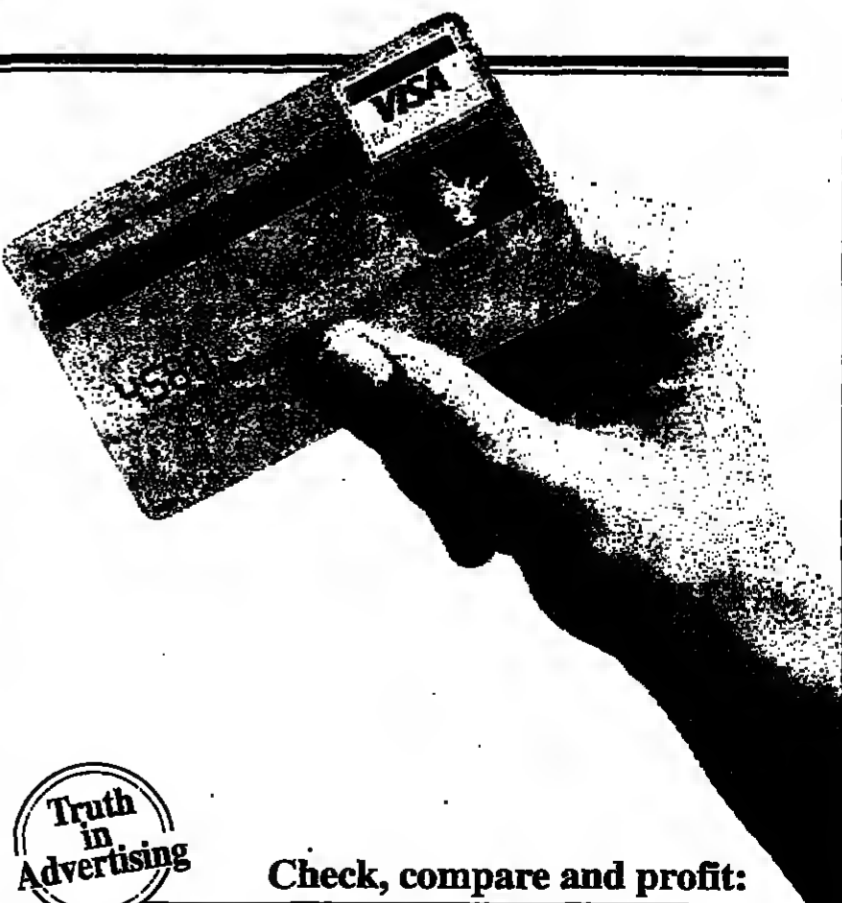
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FLAIR

Price inSCENTives

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Come Pessah and the fragrance market pulls out all the stops in a heady race for the sweet smell of success.

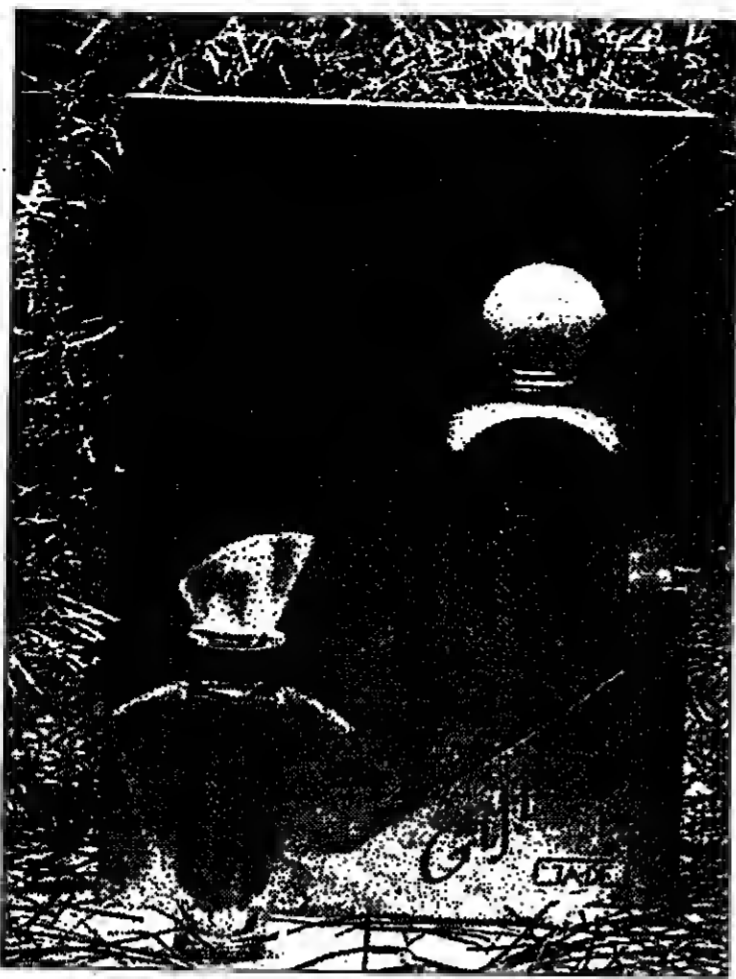
At least one of the above-mentioned outlets is offering duty-free prices, which means you won't have to go abroad for perfume bargains.

In addition to all our old favorites, there are some less common scents which have been released in recent months.

Some people think that if a famous fashion designer gives his or her name to a scent, that the fragrance must be as good as the fashion.

In contrast, Magic Eau de Parfum, the first-ever fragrance launched by the French fashion house of Celine - to celebrate its 50th anniversary - is sweet and light, and reminiscent in some respects of high-quality talcum powder.

Some years ago, some of the leading cosmetics companies came out with colorless mascara for people who wanted to wear make-up but didn't want to look as if they were.



Loushi by Jade: A light, flirtatious fragrance.

smell which quickly fades into something barely discernible.

Not so Loushi by Jade, which gives off a light flirtatious bouquet. It's the kind of fragrance one would expect from Jade, whose cosmetics are always intriguing games of shape and color.

One of the newest fragrances is Castro Green, a delightful combination of spring flowers and freshly mown grass.

Prices have been deliberately omitted here, because they would only be misleading. Suffice to say that in general, they vary from store to store, and anyone with a

little time to do some window shopping before making a purchase, will find it a valuable, money-saving exercise.

Despite the much-touted discounts, most well-known brands cost at least NIS 130. However, if you're not too embarrassed to be seen in a poor man's paradise such as Tali, the newly-opened budget-friendly French department store, you can snap up large bottles of perfume for prices ranging from NIS 5.99 to NIS 12.99, and oddly enough not all of them smell cheap.

Some are as good as anything you get in a NIS 200 bottle.

By PETER CARLSON

What I want to know is this: Who does the PR for the prostate gland? The guy must be a genius.

As glands go, the prostate is a tough sell. Any fool can do PR for mammary glands. They are popular with those who possess them and adored by those who don't.

And yet there it is, in the Reader's Digest, in Newsweek, in Business Week, even in the Ladies' Home Journal.

And here it is, in the spring issue of Prime Health and Fitness, the star of a six-page story titled "Calling Dr. Jellyfingers."

But that's beside the point. The point is that the American magazine industry has gone daffy over stories on the prostate gland and abdominal muscles and back pain and herbal healing.

Health is huge in the magazine industry. In fact, health magazines are an industry unto themselves. The titles range from Health to Men's Health to Natural Health to Prime Health and Fitness and on and on.

Health mags work on the same formula as horror movies: First

they scare you, then they soothe you. They scare you by revealing that the universe is conspiring to kill you.

These statements are frightening enough, but the questions these magazines ask are even scarier.

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estimating than the ads. There are ads for stuff you've never heard of, like "Gingko-Go" and "Intestinalia" and "E-mer-gem-C" and "MaxiLIFE Brain Protector" and "Turbo Blast," which is billed as a "mental fitness motivator smart drink."

Health magazines work on the same formula as horror movies: First they scare you, then they soothe you.

cause brain cancer?"

After terrifying their readers, health magazines soothe them with the message that everything will be okay if you just eat the right foods, do the right exercises and take the right medicines.

"Alternative therapies really do work for back pain," reports American Health. "Combat cancer, beat heart disease and boost your immunity with hardworking superfoods," urges Natural Health.

It's all so wonderfully American, this optimistic faith in the power of knowledge and technology to solve life's eternal problems.

Natural Health takes this attitude to its ultimate conclusion by revealing that the Grim Reaper's days are numbered: "In 10 years, average life span will be 100 years; in 30 years, it will be 150;

looks like Richard Nixon, and "How to Snag a Ballpark Baseball," and how to fall safely: "Step Two: Don't land on your head."

Health journalism has created a new kind of heroic reporter, a scribe who risks life and limb to save the reader's life and limbs.

One of them is Mary Roach, who writes for Health. Her editor lauds her courage in the current issue: "Roach has had rhinovirus dripped into her nose at the Common Cold Unit in England, sunbathed under the ozone hole in South America, and, for this issue, had her 'inner energy' measured in a Japanese laboratory via electrodes hooked to her toes."

In fact, Roach really is quite good, writing with a wit and skepticism frequently missing from these magazines.

But the articles in health magazines are generally far less inter-

CAVEAT EMPTORI!

Better to pass over Pessah 'specials'

By RUTHIE BLUM

This being just about the "hottest" consumer season of the year here, be careful not to get lured into spending unreasonable sums of money for Pessah-related products.

The Israel Consumer Council has just published results of a survey it performed on cleaning materials - a Pessah hysteria, if there ever was one.

The "basket" of items being surveyed contained 23 cleaning products, such as liquid detergent, oven cleaners, toilet cleaners, floor wax, laundry soap, dish-washing powder, etc. The survey was conducted on April 2 and covered 18 supermarkets throughout the country.

According to the Israel Consumer

Council, large price discrepancies were found between supermarkets. One example cited: a liter bottle of Neka liquid textile shampoo costs NIS 6.49 at the Hypershuk in Beit She'an, while the same product at Hypercol stores costs NIS 9.95. This is a gap of 53%.

Another example is Sano pesticide, K-300, which costs NIS 13.60 at the Hypershuk in Beit She'an, and NIS 17.95 at most Hypercol stores. This is a 32% discrepancy.

A kilo and a half of Tinoklin powder detergent, which costs NIS 14.95 at the same northern Hypershuk, costs a whopping NIS 22.90 at most Greenberg stores. This is a 53% difference.

The final outcome of the ICC survey finds the lowest prices on the "basket" of cleaning materials to be in the Hypershuk (Canyon Hanegev) - NIS 210.61; the highest prices were found at the Hypercol in Jerusalem and Ramat Gan - NIS 277.72 for the same "basket." Greenberg in Jerusalem and Haifa range somewhere in the middle - at NIS 255.84 and NIS 259.80 respectively.

UNRELATED TO the holiday, but rele-

vant to many unsuspecting consumers who may have been swayed by false advertising in Visa and Isracard booklets, as well as in Yedioth Aharanot. Beware of a product called "Biutzit Tester" (ovulation test). This product has been marketed as a "tiny microscope for testing ovulation."

Throughout 1995, this device was peddled as a safe and sure way to determine ovulation, for the purpose of enhancing the chances of pregnancy. According to the Trade Ministry spokesman's office, "Contrary to the way in which this product was advertised, neither the reliability nor the method in commercial use of the device had been proven."

Complaints received by the ministry led the legal department, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, to investigate the device.

The end result of the investigation is a lawsuit against the companies which marketed it: Telgo Israel, Inc. (in Ashdod), Hyperbarm, Inc. (Ashdod), and Meir Amir, Inc. (Ashdod).

According to the indictment, "...the companies used advertising which is liable to mislead consumers in an essen-

tial part of the transaction, among other things, regarding the quality of the merchandise, its effectiveness, the risk involved, and conditions of responsibility...."

Also, according to the indictment, the quote "data and description in the brochure [accompanying the product] are inaccurate, contradict one another, are confusing and mislead [the consumer]."

It was not divulged whether any woman was caused physical harm by this product. However, it is enough for a woman to have had her hopes of conception raised by marketing techniques which turn out to be false - or at least highly exaggerated - for its peddlers to be held seriously accountable.

What I am wondering is how all of this happened to slip by the Trade and Health ministries for over two years. I guess it means that we consumers should not assume that because a product is on sale in pharmacies it can necessarily be trusted.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, P.O.B. 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Advertisement for Walter Frankl's 'ISRAEL GARDENING ENCYCLOPEDIA'. The ad includes a photo of the book cover and text describing its content, such as 'Walter Frankl combines over 50 years' gardening experience and thousands of quotations raised by readers of his column in The Post, Gardener's Corner, in this year-round book devoted entirely to gardening in Israel.'

BARGAIN BASEMENT

A large advertisement for 'BARGAIN BASEMENT' featuring a list of various items for sale, including office desks, kitchen units, clothing, electronics, and furniture. The ad includes contact information and a coupon for a free classified ad.



# Court drama over 10 Commandments

### For some American Jewish groups, there is an 11th commandment: Thou shalt not post the first 10, Marilyn Henry reports from New York

The opponents of Judge Roy Moore may not have a prayer.

Thousands of people from the religious right converged on the Alabama Capitol last weekend in a show of support for Moore, who is insisting on his right to hang a plaque of the Ten Commandments in his courtroom.

American Jewish groups want him to get rid of it. So does a court order.

This fracas was originally about the separation of church and state. Now some observers say it appears to be escalating into a challenge by the religious right to defy the law.

That was because the governor of Alabama, Fob James, Jr., reportedly said he would call out the National Guard — as well as the University of Alabama football team, known as the Crimson Tide — if anyone tried to spirit away Moore's plaque.

"Never doubt my resolve," James told a rally at the state Capitol last Saturday. "There comes a time when free people will no longer tolerate their loss of liberty. That time has come. Lawmaking by the US Supreme Court is wrong, illegal and chaotic."

Under the First Amendment of the US Constitution, Americans are guaranteed freedom of religion and the government is barred from establishing any religion. In three decades of durable decisions, the Supreme Court has maintained what is called a strict "wall" separating church and state.

Moore, who is a Baptist, contends that his freedom of religion guarantees his right to practice Christianity in his North Alabama courtroom. That means displaying the 10 Commandments and opening court with a prayer.

But, not just any prayer. "My duty under the Constitution is to

acknowledge the Judeo-Christian God," the God of the Bible on which the US was founded, Moore told the Associated Press. "We are not a nation founded upon the Hindu god or Buddha," said Moore.

Another Alabama court ordered Moore to remove the plaque, saying that the display was an unconstitutional violation of the separation of church and state. That order is now being appealed.

American Jewish groups, traditionally staunch defenders of the separation of church and state, are offended by Moore's plaque and by his prayers. They are also offended by the fact that his prayers, which in any case should not be recited in court in the first place, are also exclusionary. In addition they are outraged by the Alabama governor's patronage of the judge.

"You can argue whether the Ten Commandments are innocuous, but it's not innocuous to have the governor threaten to send in troops rather than comply with a court order [to remove the plaque]," said Marc Stern of the American Jewish Congress.

Moore and his supporters on the religious right "are trying to inject their religion in an in-your-face way in a forum where it is not appropriate," said Steve Freedman, director of legal affairs of the Anti-Defamation League.

"The Ten Commandments are the quintessential expression of what lies at the heart of most religions," Freedman said. "There's a place for them in people's homes, in people's churches, on private property — not in the courts."

The American Jewish Congress called on the Alabama Judicial Inquiry Commission to investigate Moore to determine whether he had violated the American Bar Association Code of Judicial

Conduct. The code says a judge shall not, "in the performance of judicial duties, by words or conduct, manifest bias or prejudice, including bias based upon religion."

"No Buddhist, Hindu or Moslem can walk into Judge Moore's courtroom with confidence that he will not meet prejudice," it said in a letter to the commission.

The way Moore displays the Ten Commandments conveys a religious message, Stern said. "The courtroom is a place that is supposed to be neutral ground for religion," he added.

The Ten Commandments have made a public comeback in the last year.

Tennessee passed a resolution that called on people to post them in their homes, businesses and schools. The lone dissenting vote came from Steve Cohen, the only Jew in the Tennessee State Senate, who said: "The Ten Commandments were given to us by God. God does not need the Tennessee General Assembly's help in disseminating them."

In March, the US House of Representatives passed a resolution supporting the Ten Commandments — part of what Freedman called the religious right's "continuing effort to make secular institutions more religious." The resolution was not law; as a law, it likely would have been unconstitutional.

Instead, it appeared to be a nice sentiment.

"It was like saying you support apple pie and sunshine," said Freedman, adding that made it all the more "sinister." There was no way for a politician to oppose it on the finer points of church-state separation without appearing to be anti-religion.

But, he said, "Supporting the separation of church and state is not tantamount to hostility to religion. Religion is so precious and valuable that we don't want the state to have anything to do with it."

"Religion has flourished in this country precisely because it is independent of the state," he argued.



## Not Page One

### Ilana's one-woman peace process

By Sam Orbaum

Ilana Basri was supposed to begin her retirement this week, but she's still working — thanks to an outcry from citizens of Arab countries.

Basri has been hosting a radio program that for 24 years achieved what the peace process has failed to do: develop an atmosphere of trust and cooperation.

Since even before the Yom Kippur War, Basri's remarkable program, *Doctor Behind the Microphone*, has put Libyans, Iraqis, Syrians and Saudis in direct contact with Israelis. In the days when a visit from King Hussein was unimaginable, long before even Sadat set foot on the Zionist entity, Arabs came, quietly, fearlessly, gratefully — and it was Basri who brought them here.

They came in search of miracles, medical miracles their own societies cannot provide.

Basri's daily Arabic broadcasts, which are picked up in the Arab and Moslem world, are devoted to spreading the propaganda of health — no politics, no Zionist messages, not even a mention of peace and brotherliness. "They see how good Israel is," she says. "I don't have to say it."

With her disarming motherly style, she infiltrates "enemy territory" with such ease you'd think she's a New Jersey deejay transmitting across state lines.

They tune in to hear about medical advances and breakthroughs; to listen to Israeli doctors chatting (live) with callers about health problems or responding to written pleas from Baghdad, Gaza, Riyadh; and when she signs off, they sit down and write letters and faxes. The letters pour in at the rate of 300 a week, either mailed direct to Jerusalem or via a post office in Geneva.

She used to facilitate personal visits to Israeli hospitals, even for residents of the most antagonistic countries, but oo looger. "By now they can arrange their own travel to Israel, or call doctors here direct."

She does not, of course, receive tributes or recognition from Arab officialdom, except for the most backhanded form of flattery: alarmed that an Israel Radio program was giving the "wrong" impression of the Jewish State, about eight years ago a Khartoum conference of pan-Arab health ministers resolved to combat the Basri phenomenon by encouraging domestic broadcasts. A cable TV station in Saudi Arabia has been doing just that for the last couple of years, beaming a Basri-style program to the Arab world. "That makes me happy," she says. "Why not? It helps people. That's what it's all about."

It is ironic that Basri's influence began in the Arab world, and has expanded from there worldwide; she began to get requests for medical advice from India, Indonesia, Argentina, even

from such medically advanced countries as Canada and the US.

She turns to Hadassah Hospital for help with all of the queries, and to arrange consultations and treatments. Basri stresses that her referrals pay the hospital just as any tourist would. The hospital, like Basri's broadcasts, subscribes firmly to the maxim that medicine and politics don't mix.

Hadassah enjoys a near-mythical reputation throughout the Middle East, which certainly props Basri's credibility. "When I was a little girl, growing up in Iraq, I used to hear rich Moslems, my neighbors, tell about coming to Hadassah Hospital."

Her most common cases are eye and skin problems; not always routine stuff, mind you. Some patients arrive blind and before going home, enjoy a little sightseeing. Skin conditions can be so severe as to be crippling or fatal. One three-year-old Libyan boy was brought here on his father's back because the skin on the child's feet could not even tolerate shoes and socks. A Jerusalem doctor concocted a cream for him, and kept them supplied with regular shipments. Three years later, the lad, cured and walking normally, returned with his family to say thanks.

In another unusual case, a Syrian mother contacted Basri in 1979, asking that she save her baby boy. She had already buried nine young children who had the same rare skin disorder. Basri got a rescue mission going. "We told her to come. But apparently the Syrians wouldn't let them." Basri never heard from them again.

Thalassemia — a serious form of anemia — is another recurring subject on her show. The inherited illness is particularly prevalent because of the unfortunate tradition of inbreeding.

"One time, about 20 years ago, I did a program about thalassemia. Afterwards, I got a call from a Western ambassador in Tel-Aviv, asking for a tape of the program. Two weeks later, a boy suffering from thalassemia appeared for treatment at Hadassah. The boy was the son of an Arab ruler."

Her most satisfying success was a particularly complicated case — medically and politically. "The patient said it was impossible for him to come here. I consulted with a doctor from Bikur Holim Hospital, and he consented to meet the patient in Europe. I went along with him, and we stayed for 10 days until the patient was cured."

When Basri's show was about to end, her dismayed listeners responded with a groundswell of support. Dozens of letters arrived, begging her to continue. And she will, with two-hour weekly broadcasts replacing her shorter daily shows.

The peace process may be failing in the palaces and parliaments, but Basri's keeping a bit of it going in the living rooms of the Arab world.

### THERE AND THEN

## A Zionist expedition east of the Golan

By SHAYLA SHAPIRO

In 1924, two men in their 20s decided to save the 100,000-dunam tract Baron Edmund de Rothschild had acquired 30 years earlier in Hauran, the fertile plain just east of the Golan Heights, in the name of Zionism.

Indeed, an attempt in 1894 to found a settlement in that area had failed — it proved to be too far away from the center of Jewish farming activities in Galilee and the settlers suffered from solitude and frequent assaults by their Beduin neighbors. Palestine Jewish Colonization Association (PICA) officials, who represented Rothschild in Palestine, wished to exchange the Hauran land for a suitable plot in Palestine proper. Meanwhile, the land was subtle to local tenants.

Shmuel Dayan, an impassioned member of Nahalal, did his best to arouse the leaders of Hapoel Hatzair to oppose PICA. And, when Yosef Sprinzak, the influential secretary-general of the party, was attending a Zionist Congress in Europe, Dayan persuaded the remaining leaders to send

bim on a fact-finding expedition to Hauran. Dr. Aviva Ufaz, of Oranim College in Kiryat Tivon, reveals the details of this venture in a recent issue of *Cathedra*, a quarterly that Yad Ben-Zvi devotes to studies in the history of Eretz Yisrael.

The expedition was to be a secret from Hapoel Hatzair leaders themselves, who were indefinitely postponing the trip. It was also a secret from Dayan's comrades in Nahalal. However, Dayan did confide in Haim Shurer, who joined him with much enthusiasm. The two adopted a young engineer, Haim Papper, who spoke a little English and French — an absolute necessity when dealing with British and French authorities en route.

Shurer (later editor-in-chief of the Histadrut daily *Davar*) kept a diary of the expedition, which Dr. Ufaz publishes for the first time.

Their first problem was budgetary. Dayan, the optimist, estimated it would cost about five Palestine pounds. A more realistic approach put it at 20 pounds, obtained as loans and contributions from unsuspecting people who were just told it

was "for an important mission for the Yishuv, not yet for general knowledge." They decided to travel as English tourists. Though Dayan's dark complexion rather suggested an Egyptian, they could not pass for Arabs because of their limited knowledge of Arabic. To look like tourists, they bought cheap, but presentable, European dress. The French consul in Jerusalem issued a visa and even wrote a letter of introduction to the authorities in Syria. On Friday August 29, the three boarded the train for Damascus from Tzemaah.

The man in Damascus was PICA representative Amatzia Eisenberg. The authorities, Eisenberg said, were very helpful. It was the PICA management which tarried. Eisenberg introduced the young men to the French high commissioner who assured them that Rothschild could make any use he wanted of the land.

They made a tour of the area on horseback because no driver would risk his car in that robber-infested country. Zaitman Cohen, a Kfar Tavor man who dealt with the tenants on behalf of PICA, was their

guide. He wore a thick abaya and an akal on his head — a Circassian in every detail, wrote Shurer. The tourists, trying to be inconspicuous, wore local garments over their European garb. They also hired three armed guards.

The country fascinated them: Here were magnificent expanses of arable land and water, and magnificent waterfalls. Papper calculated a waterfall could easily irrigate 5,000 dunams. Cohen pleaded with them: Do something! Persuade them, the decision makers, to try again to settle, even on a small corner of this land. It was just an hour-and-a-half away from Tzemaah, no further than Haifa.

Back in Jerusalem, they were invited to Arthur Ruppin's home to report what they had seen. "We were listened to attentively but all those present decided unanimously that nothing should be done in the coming year. It was of no use to exacerbate relations between the French and the Syrians," Ruppin argued.

The Baron's Hauran possession's were impounded by Damascus when Syria achieved independence.

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Photographs and commentary by Neil Folberg

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Mac TA headed for sweep

Eilat no obstacle as Maccabi wins 98-77

By ELI GRONER
After working hard during the second half of the season to qualify for the playoffs, it appears that Hapoel Eilat forgot that there are actual games to be played in the postseason.

With almost no defensive resistance from the southerners, Tel Aviv jumped out of the gate and never looked back.

James sees Hawks home to stunning win over Nets

ATLANTA (AP) - Henry James, who didn't play until the fourth quarter, made seven 3-pointers as the Atlanta Hawks scored 48 points in the final period to gain a key victory in the playoff race, stunning New Jersey 109-101 Tuesday night.

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings.

Tuesday's results: Atlanta 109, New Jersey 101; Utah 127, Phoenix 122; Milwaukee 92, Toronto 85; Houston 123, LA Clippers 119; Seattle 108, San Antonio 88.

Soccer youth side reaches European Championship finals

Gritty 2-0 win over Yugoslavia in Holon sees Israel through to Reykjavik tourney

By ORI LEVINS
Israel's youth (under-18) side recorded one of local soccer's most significant achievements ever yesterday by reaching the European Championship finals following a controlled and determined 2-0 win over Yugoslavia.

The Israeli youth (under-18) side recorded one of local soccer's most significant achievements ever yesterday by reaching the European Championship finals following a controlled and determined 2-0 win over Yugoslavia.

begin the match confidently, and while their technical skills were immediately evident, almost all the Israeli players looked dwarfed by their Yugoslav opponents who were of much taller and stronger build.

towards him on the right of the area. Movatovic dived at Hengali's feet but missed the ball and the Israeli passed it comfortably to Wilner to complete the move successfully.

the posts and the Israeli defense rallied round him to make sure he did not put a foot - or a hand - wrong.

Liverpool spurn chance to go top

LONDON (Reuters) - Liverpool missed a golden chance to go top of the English premier league last night when they were held to a 1-1 draw by arch-rivals Everton.

Liverpool leap-frogged Arsenal to move into second place but are now two points behind leaders Manchester United having played a game more.

UEFA: Germany or England should dump conflicting bids

GENEVA (AP) - European soccer's governing body hopes to talk Germany and England out of a bitter and expensive bidding war for the 2006 World Cup when the UEFA executive board meets Thursday with both delegations.

Both countries are vying for UEFA's support of their bids to host soccer's showcase event, which will eventually be awarded by the world governing body FIFA.



TRIBUTE TO AN INNOVATOR - President Bill Clinton speaks during a tribute to Jackie Robinson at New York's Shea Stadium as Robinson's widow, Rachel and Acting Commissioner of Major League Baseball Bud Selig look on.

Robinson honored on 50th anniversary of breakthrough

No. 42 to be retired from Major League Baseball

NEW YORK (AP) - Fifty years after Jackie Robinson became the first black player in the major leagues, US Major League Baseball retired his number in tribute, saying No. 42 should belong to the sports pioneer "for the ages."

With President Bill Clinton and Robinson's widow, Rachel, standing at home plate, acting commissioner Bud Selig announced that baseball was retiring the number the late Hall of Famer wore throughout his career.

"I can't help thinking if Jackie was here with us tonight, he would say we have done a lot of good, but we can do better," Mrs. Robinson called the celebration "a great moment for all of us."

National League table with columns: East Division, West Division, W, L, Pct, GB.

American League table with columns: East Division, West Division, W, L, Pct, GB.

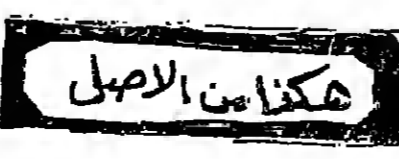
Olympiakos guard tests positive, may miss Final Four

ATHENS (AP) - Evric Gray, Olympiakos's American guard, will probably miss European Final Four basketball championship and may be benched for three months after testing positive for a banned substance, team officials said yesterday.

Olympiakos coach Dusan Ivkovic said Gray had tested positive for ephedrine, a stimulant, and would be kept off the court until a second test on his sample was conducted by FIBA, the International Basketball Association.

CLASSIFIEDS section containing various real estate listings, rental offers, and business services.

Sports Editors: Joseph Hoffman and Ori Levins



CRITIC'S CHOICE

ENGLISH LECTURE

HELEN KAYE

Professor Eliezer Ed Greenstein lectures on "The Mythological Background of the Escape from Egypt" to get us in the right mood for the Haggada. Tomorrow at 11 a.m. in Room 2, the Sherman Building, Tel Aviv University. (Gate 1 entrance).

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba is in Sdom, by the Dead Sea, tonight (8) in a special concert as part of the opening ceremony of the new Dead Sea Magnesium plant. Under the baton of Mendel Rodan, the orchestra plays Ben Haim's Trua L'Israel and works by Purcell and Elgar. The Sinfonietta then switches to a special program with the Singlet Singers who perform Lieder by Schubert and Brahms, in their own very special way. Rodan leads the orchestra in some other selections by these same composers. Saturday at the Tel Aviv Museum, April 20, 22, 24 in Beersheba and April 23 at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem (8:30 p.m.).

Joshua Rifkin leads the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra in Bach's Third Orchestral Suite, Haydn's 97th Symphony and Handel's Concerto for Two (Instrumental) Choirs, tonight (8) at Jerusalem's Henry Crown Symphony Hall. Tomorrow (11 a.m.), Rifkin plays ragtime music by Scott Joplin on the piano of the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, as the audience gathers around tables with a drink at the side stage of the Center.

Shlomo Mintz is both conductor and soloist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Saturday (9 p.m.) playing Bach's A Minor Violin Concerto and leading the orchestra in Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and Handel's Royal Fireworks Music.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

\*\*\*1/2 THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY



Shlomo Mintz performs with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra on Saturday.

FLYNT - Woody Harrelson stars in Milos Forman's film about the life, loves and legal hassles of the publisher of Hustler, one of the first really raunchy porn magazines in America. Instead of the grim civics lesson one might expect from this summary, the movie turns out to be a terrifically energetic character study - reminiscent at times of one of Norman Mailer's semi-documentary pop-cultural novels - and a passionate ode to American entrepreneurial brassness. To American bad taste, if you will. Seediness and stupidity, it turns out, are both protected by the Bill of Rights, and Forman seems drawn as much to the sordid side of red-white-and-blue capitalism as he is the enduring legacy of the laws set down by the founding fathers. As Larry's wife, Althea, rock star Courtney Love is terrifically raw; she gives the rare, unfiltered sort of performance that doesn't feel acted at all. Also with Edward Norton and a series of cameos played against type by James Carville, Donna Hanover, and the real-life Larry Flynt. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

TV

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash 6:31 News in Arabic 6:45 Morning News 7:00 Good Morning Israel 7:40 Perfect Strangers 18:05 Saved by the Bell 18:30 Larry King 19:30 World News 20:00 CNN News 20:30 Beach Patrol 21:30 Larry King 22:30 The 700 Club 00:00 Quantum Shopping

CHANNEL 2

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

CHANNEL 3

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

CHANNEL 4

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

CHANNEL 5

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

CHANNEL 6

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

CHANNEL 7

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

CHANNEL 8

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 The Morning Show 7:00 Breakfast Magazine 9:00 Meetings 10:00 Adventures of Pippi Longstocking 11:30 The World of Peter Dinklage 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 El and Jules 13:30 Half Menasha 14:00 Just Us 14:30 The Tat 15:00 Best Video Clips 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine 17:30 Open Cards 18:45 Times Perfect 19:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 21:30 Candid Camera 22:30 Dan Shilon Live 23:30 Express 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Hall 01:00 On the Edge of the Shell

PRIME TIME TV

Table with 8 columns (1-8) and 8 rows (19:30-23:00) showing TV programs and their times.

General Grant 20:00 Works Apart: 20:00 Works Apart: 20:30 Surrealism 21:30 Sarabande - The Netherlands Dans Theater 21:50 Velasquez's Little Museum - La La La Human Steps 22:45 Surrealism 23:30 Halifax F.P. 1:30 Oprah Winfrey 2:30 Barnaby Jones

6:00 Great Houses of the World 6:30 VIP 7:00 NBC Nightly News 7:30 CBS 24-Hour Karaoke 8:00 The Simpsons

6:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 National League Baseball 18:00 Champions' League Soccer 19:00 Ice Skating - World Championship

6:30 Aerobics Oz Style 7:00 Motte Katzner's Classics 7:30 El TV 8:00 Charles in Charge 8:30 Oprah Winfrey 9:30 Picket Fences

6:30 Star Plus 6:30 Aerobics Oz Style 7:00 Motte Katzner's Classics 7:30 El TV 8:00 Charles in Charge 8:30 Oprah Winfrey 9:30 Picket Fences

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1. It requires careful fiddling (5,8) 10. Cause deep offence, but not in anger (7) 11. Effective way for the police to combat crime (2,5) 12. Old Henry and I love this US region (4) 13. Let learner relax (5) 14. Inclination to use stock phrases (4) 17. I'd heard about his reactionary views (3-4) 18. British sculptor out of step with a German (7) 19. VIPs from the Artillery (3,4) 22. Mischievous desire to spoil a child's horse (7) 24. Combining army corps is not common (4)

Crossword grid for Cryptic Crossword with numbers 1-24.

SOLUTIONS grid for Cryptic Crossword.

Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS 1 Razor, 4 Smile, 10 Palates, 11 Motel, 12 Omega, 15 Utanava, 15 Gape, 17 After, 19 Shaky, 22 Ease, 25 Minkrat, 27 Small, 29 Hesitant, 21 Amused, 23 Amaze. DOWN 2 Abide, 3 Outrage, 5 Mamba, 6 Logbook, 7 Apron, 8 Creep, 9 Alpha, 14 Loop, 16 Area, 18 Feedme, 29 Hesitant, 21 Amused, 23 Amaze, 24 Flays, 26 Roses, 28 Allike.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS 7 Academic schedule (6) 8 Indulge (6) 10 Passionate (7) 11 Hillock (5) 12 Relieve (4) 13 Cornish city (5) 17 Weird (5) 18 Operatic song (4) 22 Underworld god (5) 23 Lucerne (7) 24 Crumple (6) 25 Defeated (6) DOWN 1 Mocked (7) 2 Breastplate (7) 3 Pallid (5) 4 Precis (7) 5 Extra dividend (5) 6 Statement of faith (5) 9 Grouse (9) 14 Abelard's love (7) 15 Church dignitary (7) 16 Pasta dish (7) 19 Era (5) 20 Smoked (5) 21 Tender (5)

All times are a.m. unless otherwise indicated.

# NEWS

in brief

## Yosef Burg, Wiesel named to Swiss fund

Elder statesman Yosef Burg and Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel were named yesterday as members of a seven-member board to run the Swiss fund for Holocaust victims.

The Swiss government said that the president of the body would be Rolf Bloch, president of the Swiss Federation of Hebrew Congregations.

The full membership is subject to final approval from the World Jewish Restitution Organization.

Under the fund's March 1 bylaws, the Jewish organization had to nominate three board members, and the Swiss cabinet had to appoint four Swiss people, including the president of the board. AP

## Court: No tax discount for city workers

Municipalities are not allowed to give their workers a discount on municipal taxes (*arnona*), even if this is considered a salary benefit and income tax is paid on it, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday. The court was responding to a petition filed by Holon City Councilman Erni Manor against the city, which gave its workers a 10.5 percent discount. He contended this violated the law, and the court upheld him. *Tim*

## Hadassah doctors continue sanctions

Only emergency surgery will be performed today at the two Hadassah-University Hospitals in Jerusalem due to continuing sanctions by doctors. The 700 doctors are protesting against management's cancellation of their collective agreement as part of a painful recovery program to resolve the Hadassah Medical Organization's NIS 187 million deficit.

Meanwhile, lawyers representing the union and management are trying to find wording that would allow a freeze in management's plans, rather than the "suspension" demanded by the doctors, and "cancellation" carried out by management. *Judy Siegel*

## Nursing staff to be boosted

Some 2,800 nurses' jobs will be added to the public hospitals over the next five years, according to an agreement to be signed by Health Minister Yehoshua Matza on Sunday.

After 18 months of negotiations, the government and the employers agreed to the additional job slots to meet the growing needs of patients. It was also agreed that the workload of nurses will be set according to the number of hospital beds and the hospital's ambulatory services. The agreement includes not only government hospitals, but those owned by Kapat Holim Clalit and the Hadassah Medical Organization. *Judy Siegel*

## Two indicted for employing child prostitute

Maxim Sakharov, 19, and Avraham Ya'acobov, 23, were indicted in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday on charges of rape, soliciting prostitution, and procuring. They are thought to be the two main figures in the case of 12-year-old Rishon LeZion girl working as a prostitute that recently came to light. *Tim*

## First international horse-riding tourney here

The Therapeutic Riding Club of Israel will hold its first international dressage competition at Moshav Beit Yehosua this morning. Disabled students from Britain, Greece and Italy will take part in the event, which is being held simultaneously with the Israeli national dressage championships.

Established in 1986, The Therapeutic Riding Club of Israel is a non-profit organization that provides lessons to more than 350 disabled students, many of whom are wounded IDF soldiers. *Jerusalem Post Staff*



Businessman Nahum Manbar is brought out of Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court after his remand hearing yesterday. (Israel Sun)

# Manbar brought to court

## Arms dealer suspected of security offenses

By RAINE MARCUS

International businessman and arms dealer Nahum Manbar, who disappeared three weeks ago, is in police custody on suspicion of committing serious security offenses, it was revealed yesterday in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court, when Judge Dan Arbel partially lifted the publication ban on the case.

Manbar was brought under heavy guard to the court yesterday morning for a remand hearing, held behind closed doors.

Arbel, who allowed the arrest but not other details to be published in response to requests from journalists, extended Manbar's remand for a further nine days.

warfare, contrary to reports.

In 1994, the US placed Manbar on a business "black list" due to his violation of the trade embargo on Iran, and barred him from entering the US.

In Israel, Manbar was banned by the Defense Ministry from all kinds of security and arms dealing because of his transactions with Iran.

His disappearance was noted last week, when he was supposed to arrive for a Hapoel Jerusalem basketball final. He is the team's main sponsor and members thought his disappearance was strange.

Manbar was reported missing after he boarded a plane from Lugano to Milan, Italy on March

27, together with his wife, Francine. From there he flew to Rome, where he boarded a plane to Ben-Gurion Airport.

In his ruling yesterday, Arbel said Manbar's case was most complex and did not only involve Israel alone, but spread to other countries. "If released," said Arbel, "he is likely to flee the country, suborn witnesses and destroy documents in various places around the world."

MK Ran Cohen, chairman of the Knesset House Committee, said the committee will convene soon to discuss the possible knowledge of the Defense Ministry of Manbar's arms dealings, involving the sale of Israeli weapons to Iran.

### WEATHER

Jerusalem 5-18  
Tel Aviv 10-18  
Haifa 9-18  
Ahava 6-22  
Samarita 6-17  
Beersheba 5-21  
Eilat 11-27

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear, rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Wind	Cloud
Amsterdam	8	11	11	partly
Berlin	6	9	12	partly
Brussels	8	11	12	partly
Chicago	6	11	12	partly
Copenhagen	6	11	12	partly
Frankfurt	8	11	12	partly
Geneva	8	11	12	partly
Helsinki	6	11	12	partly
Hong Kong	24	28	20	partly
London	6	11	12	partly
Los Angeles	64	78	12	partly
Madrid	8	14	12	partly
Moscow	6	11	12	partly
New York	6	11	12	partly
Paris	8	11	12	partly
Tel Aviv	10	18	12	partly
Jerusalem	5	18	12	partly

## Winning cards

The winning cards in yesterday's Chance game were the eight of spades, seven of hearts, eight of diamonds and seven of clubs.

## Two held for smuggling 24 kg of gold

Customs officials at Ben-Gurion Airport caught two women trying to smuggle 24 kg. of gold into the country on Tuesday night.

The customs service said yesterday it had pinpointed the women as the result of intelligence received by airport police. The two women tried to go through the green channel at the airport, with nothing to declare.

Both women are residents of the Mea She'arim quarter in Jerusalem, customs said. Each had a special vest under their dresses to carry the precious metal.

On Tuesday night they were brought for questioning to the customs offices in Jerusalem. The investigation revealed that they had left the country that morning on a flight to Brussels, returning after only a few hours with the gold.

They said they had carried out similar smuggling activities in the past and had been paid \$600 each time. One of the women said this was her major source of income, customs said.

# Desperate burial society workers bring corpse to city council meeting

By HAIM SHAPIRO

The body of an unidentified elderly woman was finally buried late Tuesday night in Rosh Ha'ayin, but only after burial society workers had earlier brought it into a City Council meeting and said they would not bury it until they received their three months' back pay.

The workers were finally paid yesterday, but Religious Affairs Ministry Director-General Avi Blustein demanded that those responsible be immediately suspended and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Elisha Bakshi-Doron said they should be fired. Blustein threatened to replace local religious council head Menashe Madmoni if he does not suspend the workers.

The workers, who had already undertaken go slow tactics in an effort to receive their salaries, which had not been paid for three

months, brought the body in on a stretcher, covered in a cloth with a Magen David.

At first several members of the council refused to believe that what was lying in front of them was really a body. Then the burial society uncovered one of the woman's hands.

Madmoni said the action decision to bring the body to the council was taken by the workers' committee of the local religious council, of which the burial society workers are a part.

Yesterday, Rosh Ha'ayin Mayor Yigal Yosef and members of the City Council went to Jerusalem to discuss the town's financial crisis. He said that in recent years the town has tripled in population, but the local budget had not kept pace.

He condemned the workers' action, but said that those ultimately responsible were the government ministries.

On Tuesday, after the incident, the Religious Affairs Ministry transferred NIS 250,000, it's part of the burial society workers' salaries, to the municipality. The remaining NIS 500,000 was paid by the Interior Ministry yesterday.

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau said that burial society workers should not be permitted to delay a burial, just as police, security, and medical workers should not be allowed to strike.

However, he also noted the rabbinical precept that you should not judge your fellow until you have stood in his place, and said he could try to understand the desperation of workers who saw no sign of being paid as Passah approached. Just as it is forbidden to delay burying the dead, it is forbidden to delay paying a workman, Lau said.



Sharansky visits Babi Yar

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky yesterday lays a wreath at the memorial at Babi Yar, outside Kiev, where thousands of Jews were killed by the Nazis in 1941. (Reuters)

## Survey will identify pupils with learning disabilities

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

A survey to identify pupils with learning disabilities is to be launched in the coming months by the Education Ministry, ministry Director-General Benzion Dell has decided.

The survey is designed to give the ministry more than just an estimate of how many such pupils there are in the country, instead of just the rough estimate of 3-10 percent it has now.

Dell said the move is part of a decision by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer to give priority to helping such youngsters in the coming years.

The survey is also designed to help the panel of experts headed by Prof. Malka Margalit that is examining ways to fully exploit such pupils' potential.

The ministry is also reviewing the tools at its disposal to deal with such pupils, and to widen the scope of special courses for teachers on the subject.

## Study: Women more resilient to hearing loss from blast

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem doctors are scratching their heads over the fact that women suffering from auditory-nerve damage due to explosions are much more likely to recover their hearing than men.

Dr. Ronnie Perez, of the ear-nose-and-throat department of Shaare Zedek Hospital, examined 57 people wounded in two Jerusalem bus bomb attacks in the past 20 months. Among 40 of the patients (71%), a tangible decline in hearing due to damage to the auditory nerve was detected — the result of the noise and force of the blast.

Perez analyzed the damage according to how far the victims were from the center of the explosion. Those who were on the buses suffered the most harm, while those who were in nearby buses or cars suffered less. None had been rendered totally deaf, Perez said.

He then followed up 25 of the 40 who had suffered a decline in hearing. At the end of six months, only a quarter were able to hear better (at 20 decibels) — and all of these were women, making the finding statistically significant.

Such a gender difference in recovering from trauma to the auditory nerve was unknown in the medical literature and came as a complete surprise to the researchers. A clinical study in which the hearing of such a large number of victims is tested so soon after a blast is unique in the medical literature, the doctor said.

Perez's study was quoted in the hospital's *Sha'ar Patach* newsletter and is slated to be published in a medical journal abroad. The findings will also be presented at a national ear-nose-and-throat conference in May.

Perez hypothesized that the fact that only the women's hearing improved could be due to physiological differences in the inner ears of men and women.

## Officer held for sexual abuse of girls

By DAVID RUDGE

Robert Segal-David, 25, of Haifa, an academic officer in the IDF, was remanded for five days by Haifa Magistrate's Court yesterday on suspicion of sexually abusing five girls aged between 11 and 18. In at least two cases, he took nude and provocative pictures of them.

According to the allegations, he met the girls on buses and claimed to be representing a model agency and took their telephone numbers.

"He asked the young girls to appear in revealing clothes in a public place, where they would be examined and their modeling potential assessed," said Supt. Nitzza Cohen, head of the Haifa district juvenile department. "He took pictures of two of them, saying that they would be used in an exhibition at the Israel Museum."

She added there may be other cases of which the police were not aware, and anyone with information should call the juvenile department.

**PSAGOT GLOBE, PSAGOT CHUL and PSAGOT LIMIT**

Notice of change in the set time for placing orders or redemption instructions on the intermediate days of Passover

Notice is hereby given that on the intermediate days of Passover, namely from April 23rd, 1997 until April 24, 1997, the set time for placing buying orders or redemption instructions of or for the units for the above funds, will be advanced to 12:45 instead of 14:00 due to the curtailed working hours during those days on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Fund Manager  
Psgot Managers of Mutual Funds, Leumi Igud Ltd.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM  
Will be closed for the Passover holiday

From Monday, April 21, through Monday, April 28, 1997

The University extends its holiday greetings to its students, staff, alumni, referees, friends organizations and all the people of Israel.

The facilities of the Cosell Center for Physical Education, Leisure and Health Promotion will be open during this period; the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Rishon Lezion will be open for emergencies only.

CORRECTION!  
**The Sano 1997 Cleaning, Maintenance & Care Guide**  
will not appear on Friday, April 18, 1997.  
Look for the guide on Friday, May 2, 1997